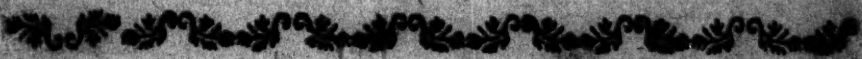
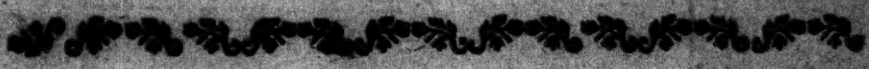


1670



A
LETTER
FROM A
YOUNG GENTLEMAN
IN
DUBLIN.



[Price THREE-PENCE.]

1761

LETTER

FROM A

YOUNG GENTLEMAN

IN

DUBLIN

[Price Three Pence]

^A
^R
L E T T E R

FROM A

YOUNG GENTLEMAN in *Dublin,*

TO HIS

FATHER in *London*

*How gross his Avarice, eating up whole Families!
How vast are his Corruptions and Abuse
Of the — Ear, at which he hangs, a Pendant,
Not to adorn, but ulcerate.*

BEAUM. and FLETCHER.

D U B L I N :

Printed in the Year, M,DCC,LXI.

LETTER

FROM A

YOUNG GENTLEMAN IN DUBLIN

TO HIS

FATHER in London

These lines are written, as you are
perhaps in the Country, and I hope
Of the same, as well as to be a
Not a word, but sincere.

Respectfully,
Your Son and Servant

DUBLIN

Printed in the Year MDCCCLXI

LETTER
FROM A YOUNG
GENTLEMAN
IN
DUBLIN, &c.

DEAR SIR,

FOR your last Kind Letter and your excellent paternal Instructions, accept of this very thankful Return.—To merit their Continuance shall be my constant Endeavour : It is with some Concern I find myself unable to comply with the Request which it contains : You desire to know from me the Situation of public Affairs in this Kingdom ? How can I pretend to pass a Judgement upon Matters so

B

very

very fluctuating? Upon Changes made in the Administration of Justice without any apparent Reason? Upon Opposition to Measures the most salutary to the Kingdom? And that thro' the Instigation of a Man entirely a Stranger to the Legislation of this Country, and perhaps of any other? Under the Influence of a Creature who has grasped at Power, Profit, and Pre-eminence no Body knows how, who is in himself of no Importance, whose Origin can no more to be traced than his Merits.

What can I think when I see this mean Instrument of Power approaching the most respectable Body in this Kingdom, I need not name the Lords Justices, with an Air of supercilious Authority; and when he addresses them, signing only the initial Letters of his Name; thus assuming a Style of Greatness, which sits upon him as awkwardly as the Lion's Skin on the Ass. This as well as some other Parts of his Conduct, I cannot but interpret into the highest Impertinence: I will not call it Affront, because there are some Beings, which though troublesome, are, by their Insignificance, secured from Resentment. Is it not laughable to see this Piece of Mockery strut forward with all the bombastic Airs of his Master, with as violent a Thirst for Consequence and something else; yet with as little Knowledge? Tho' there is a Curb upon the

ridiculous

risible Faculties, because the gilded Insect stings while it stinks.

And, indeed, nothing can appear more contemptible, view it in whatever Light you will, than this *mistitled* Right Honourable Being does, in the Retrospect of his Conduct during his Residence in this Kingdom. What a Reflection is it upon Power, how does it take away from its Force, when lodged in such wretched Hands? How weak too must be the Judgment of the Man who advanced him, how unequal such Talents to the great Employments he has filled, and from which he is now happily removed. Gaming, drinking, swearing and a Bead-roll of Imperfections are but indifferent Recommendations to the Top of Government, and when these are attended with a violent Thirst for Gold how much are their Effects to be dreaded.

It was always your Desire I should speak my Mind freely, and I have never scrupled it; because, when wrong, you have corrected me upon Principles of Reason, and conjoined the Friend with the Father and Preceptor. I cannot help declaring then that I was much amazed to find at the very Opening of a new Reign, Opposition given to the Measures of the Lords Justices, than whom it is impossible any one should better know the Interest of this Kingdom. My Amazement was still greater when

I gave myself Time to consider their unshaken Loyalty; their Consequence and Connexions; the great Knowledge and Integrity they always manifested in their Conduct, which even their Enemies admit. Nor is it any Reflection to say they have Enemies. These are an Addition to their Merits; and, like the Shades in a Picture, throw beautiful Lights upon their Character. Impartiality will allow that in their different Spheres, whether public or private, they have shewn the most perfect and disinterested Regard to the Good of *Ireland*. Is it not then Injustice to decline proclaiming to such of the People as may be misguided by Party-Prejudice, that the Difficulties their Excellencies have had to encounter in Office, arose entirely from their Opposition to Avarice, and the Strides of arbitrary Power? Will not such as are really Friends to their Country look up to their illustrious Benefactors with Hearts overflowing with Gratitude, and thank them for this noble Stand in Support of their Freedom. A Stand to which they owe the Maintenance of their Rights, and the Preservation of their Parliament? For it is now no more a Secret, that to put an End thereto, had long been the Study of some wretched Tools of Power, whose Hearts were bent upon destroying the Welfare of the Nation, upon laying the Axe to the Root of our Liberty and Constitution. That they were prevented

prevented we owe to the inflexible Integrity, the unshaken Fortitude, the undaunted Resolution of the Patriot Lords Justices ; and they were nobly seconded in their Proceedings by the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, and a Majority of the Privy-Council : Happy indeed the Nation, that in Opposition to Avarice, Ambition and Venality, could find such able Assertors of her Liberty, such Guardians of her Constitution, whose Names shall therefore be remembered with Honour and Gratitude by every Friend to this Kingdom, as long as the World shall last.

This, Sir, is the Reason, that Mr. *Malone*, one of the most upright and skillful Lawyers that ever lived, has been removed from that important Post, which he filled with Grace, Knowledge and Integrity. Excuse me, Sir ! my Warmth may carry me too far ! I have sat down to ask Advice ; and instead thereof am passing a Judgement. In this Case I cannot help it : I have attended the Courts when my Studies permitted, because the Law is a Profession by which you have told me, I am to live : I have seen Mr. *Malone*, constantly on the Bench, filling a Post, which, too often like the Master of the Rolls, has been made a *Sine Cure*, and, have I, with Rapture and Astonishment, beheld the Integrity of his Decisions, and his unparalelled Expedition.

Such

Such Understanding in the Laws and Constitution of the Kingdom, such Strength of Judgement, such Fluency of eloquent Expression, such Quickness of Conception, such a Disposition to do Right, such a Capacity to distinguish it, cannot surely be excelled; I scarcely ever saw him equalled. But why should I attempt his Eulogium? the vast Dispatch of Business since he has sat as a Judge speaks it. The Multiplicity and Justness of his Sentences, the Relief given to Distress; the Orphan's Blessing, and the Widows Prayer, proclaim aloud his manifold Virtues, his extensive Knowledge.

Yet this Oracle of the Laws, this Friend to his Country; this Lover of Justice and the Public, is removed; and Why? Because a Man of very mean Capacity who only excels in wrecking his Tenants, raising his Rents, spurning his Inferiors, knowing the best of a Bet, and Blaspheming at Disappointments of the most trifling Nature, can from his accidental Situation in Life, approach a very high, a most respectable Power, and say, *it is my Opinion Mr. Malone is not a fit Person to be continued in the Office of Chancellor of the Exchequer, &c.* Good God! What can we think of the Assurance of a Man, let his Rank be ever so great, his Fortune ever so splendid, that can thus impose, in a Manner so dictatorial, *his Opinion and his Advice,*

vice, when that *Opinion* is founded in Ignorance, that *Advice* springs from Malevolence.

I have heard you, Sir, say, and all the World confirms it, that the Throne is filled by a Prince, who is a Lover of Virtue, because he knows the Nature of it; and a Friend to Merit, of which no Man is a better Judge. Is it not then amazing? Is it not lamentable? That no Body will venture to tell him that *this Opinion*, and *this Advice*, are contradictory to common Sense, injurious to one of His Majesty's most valuable and loyal Subjects, and directly clash with the Interest of his most faithful People of *Ireland*? That he who speaks in such high and prescriptive Terms is not, nay cannot be a Judge of the Matter he thus misrepresents, and positively insists upon? That he knows nothing of the Laws or Legislative Institutions of this Country? That his Want of Conduct led him, while here, to quarrel with every Body of Consequence, and to embroil us in *England*? That his Enmity to Mr. *Malone* was private and personal, owing to that Gentleman's Love for Justice and his Country; to his strong Attachment and Fidelity to the Crown: Nay, Sir, start not, I repeat it, to his strong Attachment and Fidelity to the Crown; for he, who in every Thing promotes the Interest of his Country and his Fellow Subjects, surely promotes the Interest of the Crown.

Or,

Or, perhaps, this most puissant Dictator has an innate Antipathy to Virtue and Abilities, as some People have to *Cheese* and a *Shoulder of Mutton*.

We have already quoted Part of his Opinion, in his own Words, relating to the Removal of the Ch. of the Exch. It remains for us to trace it a little farther, and then we shall see for whom Mr. *Malone* is removed. Thus then: *And as W. Y. C. J. of the C. P. has justly merited his Majesty's GOOD OPINION, I have moved the King to confer upon him the Employment of Ch. of the Ex. which he has been most graciously pleased to grant.* It is on all Hands agreed, and it would be base to throw out an Insinuation to the contrary, that Mr. YORKE is a very honest, worthy Gentleman, but I never heard that Talents as a Lawyer were very highly rated in *England*, from whence he was imported. While in this Kingdom we have often seen the Court in which he lately presided adjourned, and re-adjourned; and the Business transacted under him has been very inconsiderable. But let us wave this disagreeable Topic, and, for Argument's Sake, admit his Skill in the Legislation to be really extraordinary, and his Talents fine: Can we still allow him to be put upon a Parallel with Mr. *Malone*, whose singular Abilities have been improved by unwearied Application, and many Years Experience

rience in the Courts of this Kingdom, where the Practice and Forms of Procedure differ much from those in *Great-Britain*. This single Circumstance must certainly be considered as pleading strongly in his Behalf.

After these necessary Premises, what Judgment can I form of the Wisdom or Integrity of him who occasioned the Removal? Must I not suspect either the Insanity of his Head, or the Badness of his Heart? In either Case, if he has a Hand in guiding the great Machine of Government, is not his Influence much to be dreaded? Would not he who can sacrifice a Man of the first-rate Merit to private Pique, offer up his Country a Victim to a darling Passion?

You cannot, Sir, fail to observe how attentive he is to remind us every where of his own vast Consequence. For Example: He says, I, *having represented it as my Opinion, and that I think it adviseable, &c. and I have moved, &c.*—Does he not remind you of the *Ego et Rex meus* of WOOLSEY? Does he not seem actuated by all that Statesman's Pride and Vanity, without his Munificence or any one of his Virtues? Before I lay this Subject aside, it remains for me to mention one Circumstance that occurs, as it is very remarkable, and indeed perplexing: It is this: The late Chancellor of the Exchequer was one of those who concurred with

our Government in the Measures agreed to lately in *England*, whereby the Disputes just kindling between the two Kingdoms, were amicably terminated, and Mr. Yorke opposed them. I will not discant farther upon this Point; I shall but just ask this simple Question; Which of the two ought to be preferred, he who widens, or he who repairs the Breach?

After the most exact Stricture, I can find only one Reason for the Removal, and one that is so very mean, so poor I am almost ashamed to mention it, but it is too glaring to be overlooked. Ever since the high Office of Chancellor of the Exchequer has been filled by Mr. Malone, he has attended Business with prodigious Application; he has shortened the Dependence of Suits in such a Manner, that he drew a great deal of Business from the Court of Chancery, thereby lessening the Income of the Master of the Rolls, who, feeling severely the Abbreviation of his Profits, had no Way to stop the Gap, but by soliciting his Master to lay aside the Cause, thus deposing Justice, and restoring Litigation to her antient Reign.

Is it not extremely hard upon the Subject, much of whose Property depends upon the Proceedings in Chancery and the Exchequer, that one of the most important Posts in each, should generally be filled by Men ignorant of the Law, of which they are here made Judges?

But

But that they are disposed of as Jobbs, or given as *Sine Cures* to Tools of Power is very certain: The Liberty of Absence indeed allowed them, preserves them from exposing their own Futility. But is not this very Liberty of Absence Matter of great Complaint to the Subject who has any Thing depending in the Courts? Does it not lengthen Suits considerably, and give Vigour to Litigation, by throwing all the Weight of Business on the remaining Judges? Nay, is not the Grievance of the different Claimants at Law unspeakable, when they find an upright, learned Judge removed, for one of whose Capacity they have no great Conviction; and a Man continued in the Office of Master of the Rolls, to which he can have very small Pretension? Is not a Judge, without any Knowledge of the Law, (we will leave common Sense out of the Question), worse than King *Log* in the Fable. This can do no Hurt, that may perpetrate much Mischief.

The more we examine the Conduct of the blundering Machiavel, and his prime Agent, to whom we owe our Dissentions and Uneasiness, the more extraordinary and unaccountable do we find it. For my Part, I was once weak enough to think that Acts of Parliament were binding as long as they are continued in full Force: Here I find myself mistaken, for it is expressly directed by a Clause of an Act of

Parliament, now subsisting, that among other Things, the Office of Master of the Rolls shall not be held during Life, but Pleasure, yet it appears from the Patent that this Act is laid aside, or broken thro' for him who now enjoys that lucrative, important Employment; for which he has moreover qualified in *England*. The surest, the most effectual Method of destroying a Building, is by sapping the Foundation; and if the Progress be not counteracted at first, the Ruin must quickly be compleated. Have we not then Reason to tremble for our Liberty, which is founded on the Laws, If we tamely sit still, and behold a Breach made in them by designing People in Power? ought we not to suspect deeper Designs meditating against us? Is it not incumbent on us to lift the Shield against Measures, that seem to open a Passage to others of a more destructive Nature? Shall Equity be restored to her Throne, unless this Breach in the Law be speedily repaired? It may, if must, if the People of this Country respect their Properties and Freedom; if they would deliver down their Rights strong and unimpaired to Posterity; if they would deliver down to them fair and uninjured the Blessings they have long enjoyed?

Have we not a Sovereign, a most gracious one, eminent for Sense, Judgement and Integrity, inspired with every Requisite that can contribute

contribute to form a great King, and a good Man? When he is told how Virtue suffers; how Loyalty in this Kingdom is traduced, and the first of the Nobility insulted with all the little Spite and Spleen of impotent Malice, he will redress every Cause of Complaint; he will restore Virtue, heal the Wounds of Loyalty, and reinstate Justice. Let him be told that under the Descendant of one of the best and bravest of Men, (of a Man who was sacrificed upon a Scaffold, a Victim to bleeding Liberty!) Ambition, Avarice, Insolence and arbitrary Power united in a Body, were permitted to rule his faithful People of *Ireland* with a Rod of Iron; that under him they felt the corroding Influence of the meanest Passions; that under him Men of the most conspicuous Virtue, of the greatest Abilities were dismissed without any Motive assigned! And the first and most lucrative offices filled with Persons void of Genius, Capacity or Virtue, unless we admit as such a strong Head for drinking, and a good Hand at Cricket, or a Boxing-Match.

But we shall find all our Subjects of Complaint rectified by our new Lord Lieutenant, who has a Head and Heart equally good: When he is fully possessed of our Situation, he will redeem our Honour, which Attempts have been made to blast; he will reinstate on a solid Basis our Freedom, of which the Subversion
has

has been meditated; the Laws which have been violated, he will restore; and the Constitution of *Ireland*, the Destruction of which has been endeavoured, he will preserve and maintain: These are the Expectations the People have from the Earl of *Halifax*, who has long acted in a great and laborious Employment with Talents that set off his Character as a Statesman and Politician, to infinite Advantage, while his private Virtues render him a most valuable Ornament of Society. Thus have I heard him always spoken of, and particularly by you, whose Judgement must always out-weigh that of every other Person. With,

Dear Sir, &c.

F I N I S.

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